

# THE GLOBAL LINE

*Serving the U.S. Army Field Support Command / Joint Munitions Command*

FEBRUARY 2005

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1

## Europe-based AMC unit deploys to Iraq

SECKENHEIM, Germany - Army Materiel Command's Field Support Brigade - Europe is on its way to Iraq, just two months after it was established to provide expeditionary logistics support to forces in the field.

"This deployment is exactly why the unit was formed on Nov. 18, 2004," said Col. Max Lobeto, brigade commander. "Ours is the first such brigade in Army Materiel Command and is designed to match up with the expeditionary Army."

Once on the ground, the brigade will exercise command and control over all AMC activities and personnel in Iraq. "We are being called forward because leadership wants to synchronize and focus the effort of the hard-working AMC people and activities supporting the mission and our Soldiers," said Lobeto.

The deploying contingent includes the commander and the brigade operations command post, comprised of both Soldiers and civilian employees. "Although many members of our command have deployed individually, this is the first time we are going as a unit," said Tommy Lane, the brigade's civilian deputy.

Plans call for AMC FSB-E to hold the reins until late this year, when it will hand over to another AMC Field Support Brigade brigade, still in the formative stages. "We're setting the standard for providing a modular solution to the logistics challenges raised by an enduring and global battle against terrorism," said Steve Lockridge, brigade chief of plans and operations. "What we do and what we learn will contribute to Army Materiel Command's continuing transformation. We've always operated in support of fighting forces, but now we are doing so in a



Photo by CHUCK FICK

**Brig. Gen. Jerome Johnson, Army Field Support Command commander, Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, Army Materiel Command commander, and Col. Max Lobeto, AMC Field Support Brigade - Europe, salute during the AFSB-Europe stand-up ceremony.**

formation that looks and acts just like the combatant commands. They're deploying as brigade units, organized and equipped for the mission - so are we."

While the brigade flag is moving to Iraq, more than 1,000 members of the command will continue to provide logistics assistance and combat-ready equipment from operating locations across Europe and beyond. "This new mission is an additional task. The essential logistics

*Continued on page 2*

## AFSB-E *Continued from page 2*

support provided to U.S. Army, Europe and U.S. European Command will continue at full speed," said Lobeto.

Among the ongoing missions at European sites are repair and return of battle-worn equipment brought home by the First Armored Division and the prospect of more such work when the First Infantry Division returns. "We're involved in every facet of the vital mission we call 'reset'. From logistics assistance at the unit level to expert advice from AMC's major subordinate commands like Aviation and Missile Command and Tank-automotive Command, to heavy maintenance

at our Field Support Battalions, we're engaged in the full spectrum of logistics power projection," said Lane.

In Europe or deployed to far-flung battlefields, AMC-FSB-E has taken on a new character, infusing its mission of Soldier support with an expeditionary attitude. "Our young brigade mirrors the mission of its parent, Army Field Support Command. Wherever the Army goes, we will be there - as a unit organized, trained and equipped to deliver the full spectrum of logistics power projection and support to forces in the field," concluded Lobeto.

- Chuck Fick

## DAC receives industry partner of the year award

The McAlester (Okla.) Area Chamber of Commerce recently presented the United States Army Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) with its Industry Partner of the Year Award.

The award is given in recognition of a major industry in the area that has unselfishly given its time and talents to the community. Accepting the award was Charles P. Stroo, associate director of training for DAC. "It is a

great surprise and honor to receive this award," Mr. Stroo said. "The way the people of McAlester welcomed us into the town, provided the spark that drives all of us to get involved."

Over the past year, DAC has been more than just a presence in the community, said Mary J. Helfenbein, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce. "They have unselfishly given their time and volunteered to

help on committees and area events," she said.

DAC employs over 200 people and contributes over \$17 million to the local economy. DAC's mission includes providing products and services relating to training, explosives safety, munitions technology, logistics engineering, ammunition career program management, and technical assistance.

- Melanie Gaines

### THE GLOBAL LINE

*The Global Line* is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of *The Global Line* are unofficial and are not necessarily the views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Army Field Support Command / Joint Munitions Command, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, or any other U.S. Government agency.

The editorial content of *The Global Line* is the responsibility of the G-5 Public Communications Office at AFSC / JMC Headquarters. Contributions to

Brig. Gen. Jerome Johnson  
Commanding General

Daniel Carlson  
Chief, G-5 Public Communications Office

Paul Levesque/Darryl Howlett  
Editor/Assistant Editor

*The Global Line* are welcome; contact information follows. E-mail address: paul.levesque@us.army.mil. Postal address: *The Global Line*, ATTN: AMSFS-PC, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill. 61299-6500. Phone: (309) 782-7228, DSN 793-7228. Datafax: (309) 782-5011, DSN 793-5011.



## ***Command Surgeon works to promote healthy, safe working environments***

One of the ways to encourage a healthy and safe working environment is through preventive medicine. For the Army Field Support Command's command surgeon, he's always up to the task.

Maj. Jose M. Ortiz, an 11-year-veteran, has been AFSC and the Joint Munitions Command's command surgeon since August 2003.

"Preventive medicine is my specialty," he said. "The command surgeon's goal is to prevent disease in the industrial setting. I'm also concerned with the health of the command as a whole."

Ortiz graduated from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. with an emphasis on occupational and environmental medicine. He completed his residency at the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.

As part of his responsibilities, Ortiz visits the command's storage sites, ammunition plants, and other facilities throughout AFSC and JMC.

"I spent one month away from headquarters as part of a safety board in Milan (Army Ammunition Plant, Tenn.)," he said. "I also headed up a medical team in McAlester (Army Ammunition Plant) concerning employees possible exposure to TNT. I try to visit as many installations as possible."

The safety board at Milan investigated the deaths of two employees caused by an explosion at the installation in October.

Ortiz also works at the Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic twice a week to maintain his clinical skills and to assist the medical staff.

"Prevention is the main thing. I work with clinics, physicians, industrial hygienists, and other health and safety workers to make sure they have in place policies that prevent exposure to haz-



Photo by DARRYL HOWLETT

**Maj. Ortiz has served as command surgeon since August 2003.**

ards."

An avid runner, Ortiz makes sure he practices what he preaches in regards to his health.

"I like the (Quad-Cities) area," he said. "I ran the Quad City Marathon and the Bix 7. I'm also trying to learn how to play golf. It's nice to live on the river and be part of the Arsenal."

Ortiz said he is thankful he works with a great staff.

That staff includes Lisa Lack, an administrative assistant with over 25 years of experience; Brenda Brewer, who is the first civilian employee to hold the job of an industrial hygienist within the command; and Kathee Secor, who serves AMC as the Workers' Compensation Case Manager.

Ortiz said that the combination of a great staff and a meaningful job equals a fulfilling career.

"This job presents a lot of challenges and for me it's a great opportunity to be involved in command (occupational medicine) policies. My main concern is always the health of our soldiers and workers in the command."

**- Darryl Howlett**



## JMC QASAS/Ammo LARs provide critical ammunition services in support of OIF



Photos taken by PAUL LEYKAMM, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency

**Left: A team of ammunition specialists looks through stocks of ammunition. Right: Captured Enemy Ammunition (CEA) awaiting destruction located north of Mosul, Iraq.**

Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance personnel who are assigned to the Army Field Support Command/Joint Munitions Command, are committed to the successful mission of the Soldier.

QASASs work to ensure that the ammunition that Soldiers use both in training and war fighting environments functions properly.

"I think the most important thing that we do is to ensure that the ammunition that is provided to our Soldiers is safe. We want to make sure that when the commanders get their ammunition, they are getting good stuff," said Lisa Hale, a QASAS and team leader, Ammunition Surveillance Division, JMC.

One of their other main priorities is teaching Sol-

diers to handle the ammunition properly.

"Ammunition is intended to hurt people, but we want it to work as it was intended, and not have somebody get hurt or equipment damaged for a silly reason. So, we try to be there with the Soldiers to make sure that they are handling the ammunition correctly and things are done safely," said Hale.

Before that ammunition even reaches the Soldier, QASASs perform tests to detect and correct any possible deficiencies.

"We perform inspections based on a statistical sampling process. We don't actually test 100 percent of ammunition. Instead, we test a sample. We're primarily looking at visual defects where there's rust or the packaging is damaged, or something is wrong with a

certain component. We have basic inspection criteria set up for all the different type of ammunition items," Hale said.

However, if there is an ammunition malfunction that was not discovered through testing or inspections, JMC QASASs follow a detailed, established procedure to prevent the possibility of a future incident and to determine the precise cause of the malfunction.

"We get it suspended until we find out exactly what happened. We gather all of the information we can and analyze that information to find out what happened with that piece of ammunition," Hale said.

Another important mission that JMC QASASs have recently been in-

*Continued on page 5*

## QASAS *Continued from page 4*

volved with is managing enemy ammunition in Iraq discovered during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"As we got up into Iraq, we were running into more of the captured enemy ammunition. We had some QASASs that were in Southwest Asia and they began to go into Iraq to evaluate this issue," said Jim Ball, QASAS, Ammunition Surveillance Division, JMC.

Ball stated that the expertise of JMC QASASs proved invaluable in laying the groundwork for safe storage of captured enemy ammunition in Iraq.

"Where JMC comes into play is with our expertise in depot operations. We in the QASAS community are not necessarily the experts on foreign munitions, but we know a lot about explosive safety and we bring that expertise into the theater. We set the guidelines that the depots needed to meet once we do hand them over to the Iraqis," Ball said.

Recently, a portion of the QASAS career field has been designated to fill ammunition logistics assistance representative positions within Army Materiel Command subordinate commands such as the AFSC/JMC.

"We're out there in the field with the Soldiers and the troops, so we're going through the same hardships they are, living the same way they are, and they see us doing our jobs. You gain their respect because you are down there in the trenches with them," said Tom Enricco, ammunition logistics assistance representative, Ammunition LAR Support Desk, JMC.

One of the lessons learned from Operation Desert Storm was a need for trained QASASs to deploy with each of the maneuver divisions. Several years ago, the AMC leadership explored the possibility of having DA civilian QASASs work directly with Soldiers at the division and corps level on ammunition safety issues, said Dan Brown, team leader,



**James Lane, an ammo manager at the Defense Ammunition Center, sorts through ammunition at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.**

Ammunition LAR Support Office, JMC.

"The QASAS career program started in 1920, and we've been supporting troops in the field on issues involving ammunition, logistics, explosive safety and quality, and transportation through World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and up through the present day conflicts," Brown said.

While QASASs provide important mission support, the Soldier remains their ultimate focus.

"What we're really about is making sure that 19-year-old Soldier comes home in one piece. That's really what makes you feel good. Whatever we can do to make their jobs easier, that's what we get our most satisfaction from," Brown said.

**- Jonathan Del Marcus**



## **AFSC, JMC news briefs**

### **Crane successfully fills armor-plating door kit order**



*Photo by John Ruggles*

CRANE ARMY AMMUNITION ACTIVITY -- Employees at the Crane Ammunition Center successfully managed the production and delivery of the Humvee steel armor plated two-door kit program. These kits were manufactured for a CAAA never-produced-item and delivered ahead of schedule. Crane is now awaiting future orders to produce additional armor kits.

**Crane employee Donnie Norris works on assembling armor doors for Humvees.**

### **AMC LSE Forward Team builds temporary dining facility**

MOSUL, Iraq -- The Army Materiel Command Logistic Support Element (AMC LSE) Forward Team in Mosul, Iraq, met a difficult challenge head on.

Following the bombing inside the Camp Marez Dining Facility on Dec. 21, a place to dine was still needed for the Soldiers. The LSE Forward team – who are supporting the First Brigade of the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light), also known as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Brigade – provided much needed assistance. The LARs spent 150 hours accomplishing this task, and the Soldiers were able to eat their first meal on Christmas Eve. The team assisted in serving meals 36 hours after the bombing.

Working beside Soldiers, the LARs were able to acquire the necessary materials to provide force protection, electricity, heating/cooling air systems and fluorescent light fixtures. All the items provided are what is issued to LARs deploying teams.

### **Gen. Griffin visits Lake City, McAlester plants**

Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, toured both the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant and the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant during a visit held Jan. 13. Both installations gave Gen. Griffin an overview of their operations. Gen. Griffin also thanked workers for their continuing support in the Global War on Terror. In McAlester, Gen. Griffin also spoke with the media about ongoing changes within the Army.

### **Lake City Army Ammunition Plant releases CRP**

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. – The Lake City Army Ammunition Plant completed a community relations plan (CRP) in January. The Army developed the CRP to facilitate two-way communication between the Army and the communities that surround LCAAP regarding its environmental cleanup program. The plant will carry out the community relations activities outlined in the plan to keep residents informed of environmental conditions on site and to provide the public opportunities to be involved. The last CRP was released in 1996.